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PATENT

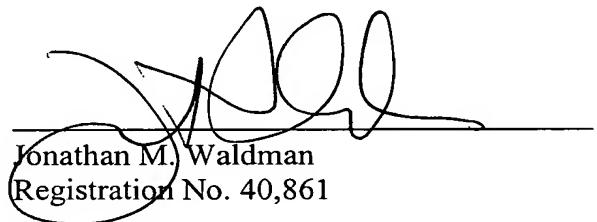
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments prior to examination of the application. Issuance of an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8, and 13 have been amended to include the feature of synchronizing the storage platform with another storage platform and synchronizing the data store with data sources that implement proprietary protocols (see application as originally filed, at page 102, for example). This feature is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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